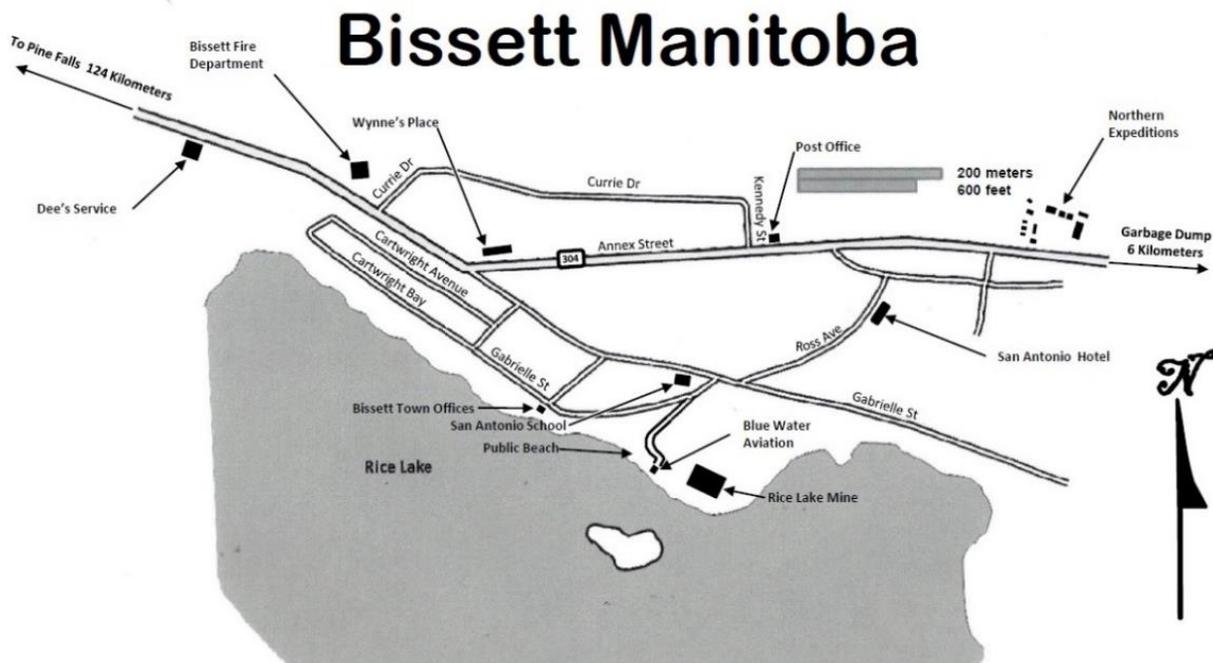


# Bissett, Manitoba Travel Information

## How do I get to the base?

The arrival time at the Bissett Base is between 1-2 pm CST on the first day of a crew’s trip. Make sure to eat lunch in Pine Falls prior to your arrival. Crews should expect to leave after breakfast on the last day of their trip.

You are responsible for your own transportation to Northern Tier. There are many options for travel to and from Bissett. The town of Bissett is located 150 miles (3.5 hours of driving time) northeast of Winnipeg, Manitoba. Winnipeg is served by commercial air, rail and bus.



Most crews traveling to Bissett fly to Winnipeg. Delta Airlines has regular service to Winnipeg through Minneapolis, Chicago and Denver. Other airlines may connect with Air Canada or West Jet in Toronto, Ontario.

If you are planning flights, please consider the option of spending a night en route. Keep in mind that while it is possible to arrange an early flight to Winnipeg, you will arrive at the base after an already long day to begin 6 hours of intensive trip preparation. In addition, Winnipeg is a great city with a lot to see and do.

## TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS (In Canada):

Crews arriving by public transportation will need to arrange charter transportation to Bissett. A few of the more popular options are listed below:

Vital Transit	Northern Soul Wilderness Adventure	Budget Rent A Car	Five Star Bus Lines
Winnipeg, MB 204.633.2022 s.paull@vitaltransitservice.com	Winnipeg, MB 866.425.9430 204.878.3570 adventure@northernsoul.ca	Winnipeg International Airport Winnipeg, MB 204.989.8510	Winnipeg, MB 204.261.7698 starfive@mts.net Fivestarbuslines.com

## **CROSSING THE CANADIAN BORDER**

Travel into Canada with a group of youth requires careful planning. The documentation required to travel outside the US (passports and passport cards) may take several months to acquire.

Please read the following information carefully. If you have any additional questions, please consult the US State Departments webpage on travel to Canada

(<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/country/canada.html>) as well as the Canada Border Services Agency's website (<http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/menu-eng.html>).

Please follow these steps to ensure safe and conflict-free border crossings:

- **All participants who are US citizens must bring an original proof of citizenship (Passport or Passport Card) to cross the border.** Passport cards **cannot** be used for some methods of crossing the border (i.e., by plane). Naturalized citizens should bring their naturalization certificate. Getting a passport can take several months – if you need a passport, start this process well in advance of your trip.
  - Non-US Citizen participants should contact a [US Immigrations Office](#) and a [Canadian Customs](#) office to make sure their documentation is in order. Permanent non-US Citizens are advised to bring their Alien Registration Receipt Card. Non-US Citizens must have a multiple entry Visa to return to the United States.
  
- **All youth age 17 and under must have a [Parental Release Form](#) allowing them to travel internationally.** This form can be found on the Northern Tier website [www.ntier.org/tripplanning](http://www.ntier.org/tripplanning) or in appendix L.
  - The Parental Release Form must be *signed by both parents and have both parents' contact information*. Children with special circumstances (death of a parent, legal guardian, etc.) should bring proof of their custody arrangement.
  - The Canadian government is very concerned about the trafficking of children across the border. They require these documents to ensure that all children are crossing the border with the consent of all legal guardians. While currently, the [Parental Release Form](#) does not require notarization, rules may change in the future.
  
- **Anyone with a criminal record should review this Canadian Immigration website** (<http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/information/applications/guides/5312ETOC.asp#overview>) to ensure that they will be allowed to cross the border. In some cases, individuals may apply for a waiver to have their border crossing approved. Certain violations (ex. DUIs and Reckless Driving) can be significant obstacles in crossing the border.

### ***What are the roads like when driving to Bissett?***

Some crews (especially those in the Great Plains states) drive themselves to Bissett. Keep in mind that the roads for the last two hours of the drive are unpaved and can be very rough.

Highway 304 is a remote gravel road, please be careful. While driving to Bissett, crews may encounter gravel trucks and road graders that can kick up impressive clouds of dust. There are also many moose and deer in the area, not all of whom understand the danger of fast-moving vehicles.

### ***Where can I fill up on Gas? Eat Lunch? Visit an ATM? Purchase Fishing Licenses?***

Crews should eat lunch before arriving. Bissett offers only two places for lunch, Wynne's Place and the Hotel San Antonio, both of which are crowded with miners (since both are owned by the Gold Mine, miners are typically served before the general public). Both can also be closed at any time, so may not be open when you arrive.

There are several places to eat in Pine Falls / Powerview. Charlie Biggs, just across the Winnipeg River on Highway 304, offers a sit down lunch. There is a Subway and a grocery store (Dancy's) in downtown Pine Falls on Highway 11. Clarks Corner, a gas station at the corner of Highway 11 and Highway 304, has take-out Fried Chicken. They ask that crews call ahead so they can be prepared to serve them 204.367.2238.

There is a park on the south bank of the Winnipeg River just to the North of the intersection of Highways 11 and 304. There are also campgrounds on the banks of the Manigotagan River (70 km/49 miles past Pine Falls on Highway 304) and the English Brook (9 km/5.6 miles past Manigotagan). All are terrific places to eat a picnic lunch and stretch the legs.

The last place to fill up your gas tank is in Pine Falls. While there is a gas station in Bissett, inconsistent scheduling, high prices and the potential for a general power outage make it a sub-optimal option.

Similarly, should you need to acquire Canadian cash (***the Bissett Trading Post does not accept US Currency***) or use an ATM, the Royal Bank of Canada in Pine Falls is the best place to stop. The RBC has a 24-hour ATM that accepts some American Debit Cards. The ATM systems that it uses are posted next to the machine.

Finally, if events beyond your control cause your crew to be delayed, please call so that the Bissett Base can accommodate for your late arrival. Over the past three years, luggage has been lost, flights have been cancelled and cars have broken down. Nevertheless, all crews have departed for the wilderness on time. If you run into any problems or have any questions while travelling, please contact the Bissett Base at 204.277.5261.

### ***Where can I stay en route to Bissett?***

Crews arriving in Winnipeg, Manitoba prior to their scheduled arrival date should not plan on staying at the Bissett base. Winnipeg has many hotels at a variety of prices to choose from.

In Bissett, the only hotel is the Hotel San Antonio 204.277.5250. Please call ahead if you wish to stay here – at many points during the summer all of the rooms will be filled with miners making it difficult to get a room.